

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PE
SUBJ: TEACHER STRIKE WORSENS

1. THE GOP HAS ORDERED THE SUMMARY DISMISSAL OF 38 MORE TEACHERS AND ANNOUNCED THAT JUNE PAYCHECKS OF ALL TEACHERS WILL BE REDUCED 50 PERCENT. THE MEASURE APPLIES TO TEACHERS OPPOSED TO THE STRIKE AS WELL AS TO THOSE PROMOTING IT. MEANWHILE THE GOP CONTROLLED MEDIA HAVE INTENSIFIED THEIR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE TEACHERS UNION SUTEP LABELLING ITS POLICY ONE OF "SABOTAGE AND PROVOCATION".

2. SUTEP ACTIVISTS ALSO HAVE INCREASED THEIR EFFORTS TO GAIN ATTENTION AND SYMPATHY. DEMONSTRATIONS AND PROTEST MEETINGS CONTINUE IN LIMA AND IN THE PROVINCES SUTEP HAS ORGANIZED RALLIES AND MARCHES AND MOST RECENTLY THE OCCUPATION OF SOME PROVINCIAL CHURCHES IN PIURA, PUNO, TUMBES, TRUJILLO, LA OROYA AND AREQUIPA. IN THE LATTER CASE ABOUT 300 DEMONSTRATORS LOCKED THEMSELVES IN THE CATHEDRAL AND HELD OUT AGAINST POLICE EFFORTS TO DISLODGE THEM FOR TWO HOURS. POLICE FINALLY DISPERSED THIS GROUP WITH TEAR GAS. SUTEP IS ALSO CIRCULATING HANDBILLS WITH COMPARISON
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OF MILITARY AND TEACHERS PAY SCALES.

3. COMMENT: THE COMMUNIST PRESS AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE STRIKE. AS THE PROTEST CONTINUES THE POSSIBILITY GROWS THAT SOME UNIONS MAY SHOW THEIR SUPPORT WITH SYMPATHY STRIKES OR DEMONSTRATIONS. THE GOP DECISION TO CUT THE PAY

OF ALL TEACHERS DOES NOT HELP MATTERS.

DECON DEC 1980. SHLAUDEMAN

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